



## **SPECIAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS**

### ***Overview***

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 the Corporation awarded 17 Special Volunteer Program homeland security grants to national and local nonprofit agencies such as the American Red Cross and the American Radio Relay League, as well as cities, counties, and state commissions on national and community service. In FY 2003, with Corporation funding of \$4.8 million, the Corporation awarded the original grantees continuation grants for the second year of an expected three-year grant cycle. These grants support a budgeted 16,400 volunteers providing a variety of homeland security activities. Special Volunteer Program homeland security grantees started their second year of operation in September 2003.

### ***The Volunteers***

To date more than 36,800 volunteers have actively served more than 671,000 total hours.

- Forty percent, or 14,265 volunteers are age 55 and over and 22,630 or 60% are age 54 or younger;
- More than 4,000 are veterans;
- More than 5,000 helped with community homeland security events such as community fairs, training sessions, and community information meetings.
- More than 2,400 serve in assignments specifically to recruit other volunteers from the community who have together recruited 5,513 community volunteers, or a ratio of 3 leveraged volunteers for every Special Volunteer serving. Of the volunteers they recruited, 66 percent, or 3,619 volunteers, are age 55 and over.

During the first year, eligible volunteers could be of any age, although it was expected that a significant number would be age 55 or over. In FY 2003, volunteer recruitment shifted to an emphasis on seniors. The grants were renegotiated to recruit and place Special Volunteers who serve in an ongoing capacity and leverage other community volunteers. The volunteers come from all walks of life and represent diverse ethnic, racial, and socio-economic backgrounds.

## ***Services Provided***

Special Volunteers in homeland security engage in a variety of activities to help ensure communities and citizens are better prepared to prevent, respond to, or provide relief during emergencies, both natural and manmade.

Some of their activities include:

- Helping cities and states use volunteers to develop and carry out emergency response plans;
- Expanding Citizen Emergency Response Teams and Volunteers in Police Service;
- Training community members of all ages to understand and cope with acts of terrorism;
- Providing information to low-income communities about how to respond to bioterrorism;
- Developing public health strategies for responding to municipality-wide emergencies; and
- Creating Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOADs) in areas that lack them.
- Recruiting other community volunteers for homeland security roles.

## ***Partner Organizations***

The 17 grantees worked with a wide range of organizations, representing nonprofits, community- and faith-based organizations, and government agencies. The grantees partnered with:

- More than 800 faith-based community partners;
- More than 200 chapters of the American Red Cross;
- More than 225 FEMA or Emergency Management agencies; and
- Helped to establish or support more than 240 Citizen Corps Councils

## ***Performance Measurement***

Beginning in 2003, all Homeland Security Special Volunteer Programs were required to self-nominate performance measures to which they agree to be held accountable by the close of their 3-year grant cycles. Each grantee was required to select at least one output, one intermediate outcome, and one end outcome, each with corresponding indicators and identifying measurement tools. Grantees then use their semiannual progress reports to update the status of each performance measure.

## **Special Volunteer Program Homeland Security Grantees**

<b>Alaska:</b>	Municipality of Anchorage
<b>Colorado:</b>	Valley Community Fund, San Luis
<b>Connecticut:</b>	American Radio Relay League, Inc., Hartford
<b>District of Columbia:</b>	Executive Office of the Mayor, DC Commission on National Service
<b>Florida:</b>	City of Orlando Florida Commission on Community Service, Tallahassee
<b>Michigan:</b>	Detroit Medical Center, Detroit
<b>New York:</b>	American Red Cross in Greater New York
<b>North Carolina:</b>	North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Raleigh
<b>Ohio:</b>	Ohio Community Service Council, Columbus
<b>Oklahoma:</b>	City of Tulsa
<b>Pennsylvania:</b>	American Red Cross – Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter, Philadelphia
<b>Tennessee:</b>	Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service, Memphis
<b>Texas:</b>	City of Austin
<b>Washington:</b>	Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams, Tacoma
<b>Wisconsin:</b>	Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

## **Descriptions of Special Volunteer Program Homeland Security Grants**

### **Alaska**

#### **Municipality of Anchorage**

Anchorage

FY 2002 Funding: \$300,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$225,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 350

In year one, the Special Volunteer Program developed public education materials, media tools and delivered training to help homebound seniors and an estimated 4,500 physically or developmentally disabled residents of Anchorage prepare to respond to a disaster. In year 2, a total of 350 Special Volunteers will help to recruit 800 additional community volunteers and will strengthen partnerships with municipal agencies, the Office of Emergency Management, police and fire departments, American Red Cross; and the Police Chaplains Association provided training and technical assistance in emergency preparedness and disaster response. The Special Volunteers serve as community instructors, conduct outreach to vulnerable populations, and coordinate the development of a database of residents in need of special services.

### **Colorado**

#### **Valley Community Fund**

San Luis

FY 2002 Funding: \$217,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$217,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 380

In year one, Valley Community Fund worked with the San Luis Valley American Red Cross to develop its first line defense capacity in the event of emergencies and disasters. The project mobilized 263 volunteers throughout the San Luis Valley to support Disaster Response Teams, train community volunteers as educators to youth groups and other groups, and to establish a Citizen Corps Council. In year two, the Special Volunteer Program is expanding to 380 volunteers who will recruit other community volunteers, strengthen the Citizen Corps Council, and develop intergenerational homeland security projects with local youth.

### **Connecticut**

#### **American Radio Relay League, Inc.**

Hartford

FY 2002 Funding: \$181,900

FY 2003 Funding: \$179,916

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 2,400

In year one, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) 1041certified emergency volunteers and has recruited 206 through their efforts. ARRL is the national association

for Amateur Radio and is the national leader in emergency communications by volunteers who operate their own equipment on their time at no cost to any government, organization, or corporation. The Certified Emergency Radio volunteers serve their local communities as well as with emergency medical teams, police and fire departments to stabilize communities with reliable emergency communications service. In year two, more Special Volunteers are being recruited and certified, and 250 volunteer mentors are assisting as instructors to the newly recruited volunteers

## **District of Columbia**

### **Executive Office of the Mayor, DC Commission on National Service**

FY 2002 Funding: \$400,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$400,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 700

In year one, the Special Volunteer Program reported 338 volunteers to support the City in homeland security activities. Through partnerships with the American Red Cross, District of Columbia residents received Disaster Action Team Training, and the Police Reserve Corps officers participated in a community forums addressing emergency preparedness. Special Volunteers also helped distribute Disaster Response and Recovery information. In the second year, the Special Volunteer Program is strengthening the Citizen Corps Council and establishing a Neighborhood Corps. By the end of the year, a projected 700 Neighborhood Corps Block Captains will help their own blocks and neighborhoods to develop effective disaster plans. Special Volunteers also recruit community volunteers to assist with the homeland security outreach.

## **Florida**

### **City of Orlando**

Orlando

FY 2002 Funding: \$400,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$365,850

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 550

In year one, the City of Orlando trained and empowered citizens in volunteer service to protect people and neighborhoods in the event of a disaster by convening and coordinating CERT training. Special Volunteers also recruited community volunteers. The volunteers prepared helped to develop Neighborhood Watch Programs and helped families to develop escape and disaster plans. In year two, the Special Volunteer Program in continuing its recruitment of 550 trained volunteers who will, in turn, recruit community volunteers and coordinate expanded Neighborhood Watch activities. The project is working with the local RSVP grantee to engage RSVP volunteers in recruitment of senior volunteers.

### **Florida Commission on Community Service**

Tallahassee

FY 2002 Funding: \$328,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$328,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 550

In year one, the Florida Commission on Community Service subgranted funds to *Volunteer Florida! Volunteer Florida!* empowers Volunteer Centers to mobilize seniors and veterans to serve in local homeland security initiatives. In year two, each participating Volunteer Center is developing its "Front Porch Community" project to help local residents prepare for and protect themselves and their homes from disasters. Volunteers make disaster preparedness presentations to civic organizations, and promote a Volunteer Reception Center concept to local agencies and emergency response agencies. The program plans to have subgrants with a total of 11 Volunteer Centers throughout the state in year 2 to accomplish specific goals in each community.

## **Michigan**

### **Detroit Medical Center**

Detroit

FY 2002 Funding: \$200,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$165,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 275

In year one, the Special Volunteer Program served as a resource to the professional medical community convene bioterrorism and disaster preparedness consortia and conferences. A total of 520 attendees, including emergency medical professionals and health care workers attended a smallpox conference. The Special Volunteer Program helped with follow up training for the 130 medical volunteers. In year 2, the focus of the Special Volunteer Program shifted to recruiting volunteers, with an emphasis on seniors to: establish a CERT volunteer base and recruit community volunteers to receive training; distribute public education materials; and assist with development of a public transportation network to be activated in times of emergencies.

## **New York**

### **American Red Cross in Greater New York**

Statewide

FY 2002 Funding: \$500,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$500,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 310

The American Red Cross of Greater New York Special Volunteer Program is statewide. An overarching goal is the development of Citizen Corps Councils throughout the state. In year one, the American Red Cross in Greater New York recruited 98 volunteers with the ability to respond quickly, appropriately, and in effective ways should a disaster or another act of terrorism occur. They attended "boot camp"— a 1-day training to prepare volunteers for ongoing roles in helping with community disasters. In year two, a total of 310 Leadership Volunteers are mobilizing other volunteers, participating in disaster training drills, and overseeing emergency preparedness and response activities of the

newly formed Citizen Corps Councils. A statewide training is planned to ensure that the network will have an opportunity to train and strengthen together.

## **North Carolina**

### **North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service**

Raleigh

FY 2002 Funding: \$119,900

FY 2003 Funding: \$119,900

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 350

In year one, the North Carolina Commission began working through a number of Volunteer Centers and the NC Emergency Management Agency to conduct community education about disaster preparedness. In year two, the program is targeting recruiting more senior volunteers and helping the vulnerable population of older seniors to become better educated about and prepared for emergencies and disasters.

## **Ohio**

### **Ohio Community Service Council**

Columbus

FY 2002 Funding: \$450,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$450,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 700

In year one, the Ohio Community Service Council forged statewide and local partnerships with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, the Ohio Volunteer Center Association, and the Ohio RSVP Directors Association to better facilitate the volunteer needs of emergency systems in Ohio. A total of eight Volunteer Centers in Ohio received funds to serve as Citizen Corps Council lead organizations. By the end of year two, 700 Special Volunteers and RSVP volunteers will help leverage more than 4000 volunteers connected to local Citizen Corps Councils. The volunteers are helping to implement a contact database and conduct community trainings.

## **Oklahoma**

### **City of Tulsa**

Tulsa

FY 2002 Funding: \$275,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$275,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 500

In year one, the City of Tulsa developed and implemented a citywide volunteer disaster mobilization plan. Volunteers helped to educate the general public by distributing a family preparedness guide provided with information on disaster preparedness, convening meetings that included information on bioterrorism response by local health department, and established Safe and Secure Teams throughout the community to serve as trained resources. Special Volunteers also participated in the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) initiative. In year 2, the project is helping to recruit a "language and culture bank" of volunteers from various ethnic groups to help with language translation

and cultural issues. It also continues to educate and inform the community about how to prepare for – and practice for – emergencies of all kinds.

## **Pennsylvania**

### **American Red Cross – Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter**

Philadelphia

FY 2002 Funding: \$323,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$301,423

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 600

In year one, the American Red Cross Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter created an alliance of over 100 nonprofits in the Greater Philadelphia area to form the Southeastern Pennsylvania Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). The alliance, joined by United Way, empowers and mobilizes citizens of southeastern Pennsylvania to help neighbors prevent, prepare for, and respond to disasters. Initially, the alliance mobilized 411 new volunteers. The focus of year one was to deliver VOAD training to agencies, but did not plan for on-going activities. The target for year 2 is 600 volunteers with the majority of them senior volunteers to continue the work of the VOAS project.

## **Tennessee**

### **Tennessee Commission on National and Community Service**

Memphis

FY 2002 Funding: \$150,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$150,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 250

In year one, the Tennessee Commission fortified the statewide homeland security infrastructure by developing and strengthening relationships with local councils and statewide disaster agencies, including the Tennessee Office of Homeland Security and Volunteer Memphis. The Special Volunteer Program spearheaded the development of a VOAD in Memphis, and created a plan to develop a Volunteer Reception Center to mobilize volunteers as needed in support of disaster mitigation. In year two, more than 250 Special Volunteers and the volunteers they mobilize continue to serve in the same ways to help the State of Tennessee efficiently utilize its entire human and organizational resources to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and to recover from disasters, either man made or natural.



## **Texas**

### **City of Austin**

Austin

FY 2002 Funding: \$400,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$400,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 700

In year one, the Special Volunteer Program helped to recruit and place 157 volunteers to offer direct emergency management services to the community. The program trains and assigns volunteers to specific teams in support of emergency management functions of in all phases of disaster planning through Disaster Ready Austin. The Special Volunteer Program coordinated the development of the Central Texas Citizen Corps Council. A second component of the Special Volunteer Program is with the Civil Defense Battalion, with the City of Austin Police Department. By the end of year 2, the program plans to have approximately 700 trained volunteers supporting Disaster Ready Austin and the Defense Battalion.

## **Virginia**

### **Mercy Medical Airlift**

Norfolk

FY 2002 Funding: \$253,400

FY 2003 Funding: \$357,624

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 1,800

In year one, Mercy Medical Airlift's Volunteer Pilot Homeland Security Transportation Network built on the established volunteer "Angel Flight" pilots program, serving ten states (Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia and the District of Columbia). The Special Volunteer Program increased volunteer pilot participation to 400 pilots regionally, with a minimum of 5,000 pilots nationwide. In year 2, the Special Volunteer Program is helping Mercy Medical Airlift to expand into 23 total states and bring the number of Special Volunteer pilots up to 1,800. The increase in the number of volunteer pilots will decrease the current response time by establishing two pilot groups who can respond on either one- or six-hours' notice. Examples of the volunteer pilot air transportation system include flying emergency blood shipments to hospitals, key relief agency officials to disaster sites, and "booties" and supplies to aid rescue dogs, as was done at "Ground Zero".

## **Washington**

### **Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams**

Tacoma

FY 2002 Funding: \$250,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$250,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 4,000

The Special Volunteer Program was the catalyst to form the Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams (PC-NET), and the first PC-NET academy was held on March 29. A highlight of year 1 was participation in community disaster preparedness drills. Many of

the trained volunteers serve as additional community training resources in year 2. Also in year 2, the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and Pierce County Sheriff's Department are expanding the Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams (PC-NET) to over 100 neighborhoods from the existing eight.

## **Wisconsin**

### **Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee**

Milwaukee

FY 2002 Funding: \$225,000

FY 2003 Funding: \$225,000

Number of Volunteers by the end of 2003: 2,000

The Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee utilized 1,373 multigenerational volunteers for disaster preparedness and response. The volunteers organized and coordinated 6 CPR and 14 First Aid Fast classes. In all, 59 adult homeland security volunteers were trained in these classes. Volunteers also created an Intergenerational Volunteers program providing interaction between youth and seniors. During these sessions, youths came to senior buildings and interact with them. In year two, a projected 1,600 volunteers in 13 high rise and 8 family developments are establishing Neighborhood/Building Watch programs.